

### IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 13 with the following rewritten paragraph:

b 1  
To achieve the foregoing objects, and in accordance with the invention as embodied and broadly described herein a method, and computer program product for representing and connecting an underlying connection-oriented device in a known format is provided. U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/097,293, filed June 12, 1998, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,378,005, and U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/096,690, filed June 12, 1998 are incorporated herein by reference.

### IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-3, 5, 7, 8 and 10-12 as follows:

Sub C: 7  
B 2  
1. (Twice Amended) A method for representing to an application the characteristics of an underlying connection-oriented device over known application-level interfaces and allowing an application to take advantage of a connection-oriented I/O subsystem having an integrating component over the known application-level interfaces and without requiring the application programmer to program directly to the integrating component, the method comprising:

representing to an application, over a first known application-level interface associated with the integrating component, the connection control characteristics of the underlying connection-oriented device, wherein the integrating component is positioned